



CITY NEWS

It's Brookhaven's Birthday - and you're invited!



Brookhaven will commemorate its one year anniversary with two celebratory birthday events this month.

Brookhaven will host a birthday celebration at Blackburn Park, 3493 Ashford Dunwoody Road, on Sat., Dec. 14 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

“We are excited to celebrate our first year of operations as a city. We have accomplished so much and hope all residents come out to celebrate the success of Brookhaven.”

the day. At dusk, the mayor and council will light the city's first Christmas tree, a 12-foot evergreen planted recently in Blackburn Park.

The celebration will kick off with Brookhaven's Birthday Fun Run, a 3K that starts at 1 p.m. at Blackburn Park. To register, visit active.com. Participants are encouraged to wear birthday-themed accessories, such as party hats, boas and tiaras. There also will be a 1K in the park, as well as a 50-yard dash Tot Trot for children.

The Saturday birthday celebration will include live music, food trucks, children's entertainment and activities throughout

Beside the tree, the mayor and city council will bury a time capsule that will remain sealed for 25 years. To include your own items in the time capsule, visit brookhavenga.gov for submission guidelines.

“We are excited to celebrate our first year of operations as a city. We have accomplished so much and hope all residents come out to celebrate the success of Brookhaven,” Mayor J. Max Davis said.

On Tuesday Dec. 17, the mayor and council will host a formal birthday commemoration ceremony at Town Brookhaven to honor and thank those who helped build Brookhaven. The ceremony will begin at 7:30 p.m., and all members of the public are invited to attend. In keeping with the spirit of volunteerism, please bring a non-perishable food item for donation to a local food bank.



From The Mayor's Desk...



Dear Neighbors,

I am honored to invite you to celebrate Brookhaven's one-year anniversary. We will be having a birthday celebration Saturday, Dec. 14 from 1-6 p.m. at Blackburn Park. This will be a fun event for families..

We also will host a formal incorporation commemoration at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 on the green at Town Brookhaven to honor those who helped found the city. Brookhaven would not exist without the grassroots efforts from a number of volunteers who dedicated themselves to the formation of our great city. I thank each and every one of you who made this city possible and will be forever indebted to your service.

The City of Brookhaven opened for business on Dec. 17, 2012. Since then, we have had numerous successes and milestones, including:

- More than doubling police coverage over prior County levels
- Assuming the maintenance of our parks
- Opening and staffing our municipal court
- Setting our millage rate one half mill below our cap
- Filling and repairing more than 110 potholes
- Completing 485 public works orders
- Repairing our sidewalks
- Handling 541 traffic accidents
- Issuing 1,316 new business licenses
- Issuing over 135 single family building permits
- Creating a \$1 million reserve

This is just the beginning. Brookhaven was created with the promise of limited and efficient government that reduces your share of the tax burden and spends your tax dollars wisely. With this in mind, we have recently begun sidewalk installations and paving projects in each district this year - ahead of schedule. We are also launching our comprehensive plan, as well transportation and park plans, to provide a vision for the future growth of our beautiful city. Your input is vital and necessary, and I urge each of you to help us by contacting the city and participating in Brookhaven's future. Please contact us at volunteer@brookhavenga.gov.

I want to hear from all of you about what you want to see in Brookhaven in the future. I will offer more details about the potential vision for Brookhaven in my State of the City address in January. I would like you to bring your suggestions to this years' fourth and final Town Hall meeting on Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. in Oglethorpe University's Lupton Hall. Residents may also visit me for "Mondays with the Mayor." To schedule a meeting please contact the city clerk at 404-637-0464.

I wish you a safe Christmas and holiday season, and a very Happy Birthday to Brookhaven!

Sincerely,

Mayor J. Max Davis

[J. Max Davis, Mayor - 404.637. 0710 - jmax.davis@brookhavenga.gov]



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www.twitter.com/BrookhavenGaGov
www.youtube.com/user/CityofBrookhavenGA
www.flickr.com/photos/cityofbrookhavenga



AED Donation to Help Brookhaven Save Lives

Brookhaven will be able to save more lives and money thanks to a new nonprofit organization.

The Friends of Brookhaven Foundation has pledged to help raise funds to purchase portable automated external defibrillators (AEDs) for all Brookhaven Police patrol cars, as well as city hall, municipal court and city recreation facilities.

The city has agreed to match each dollar raised by the Friends of Brookhaven Foundation, reducing the expense for the city. AEDs can typically cost between \$900 and \$1,200 per device.

"AED devices are life-saving and absolutely necessary in an emergency. If having these in our public facilities and patrol cars saves at least one life, it will have been worth the cost," Mayor J. Max Davis said. "We are very proud of the foundation and their donors who have raised \$20,000

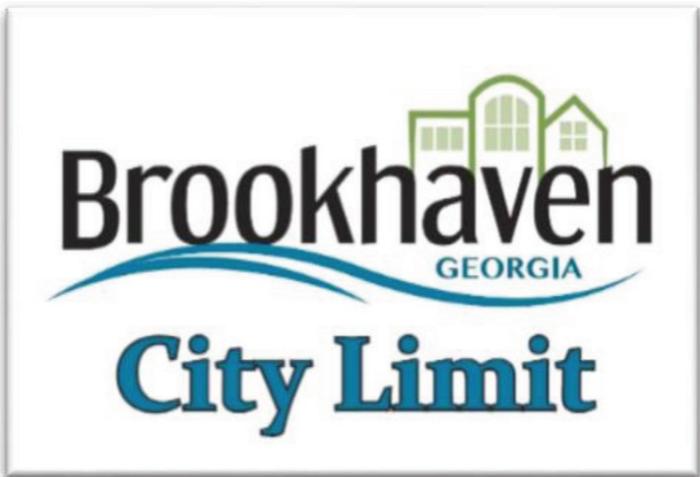
of their \$30,000 goal, and encourage everyone to make their own donation before the deadline."

The funds will be presented to the city on its birthday: December 17.

Friends of Brookhaven Foundation was recently started by a group of Brookhaven residents and aims to foster a sense of community and enhance the quality of life in the city.

To make a donation, please send a check to Brookhaven Bank payable to the Friends

of Brookhaven Foundation at 2221 Johnson Ferry Road NE, Brookhaven, GA 30319 or donate through their web site at www.friendsofbrookhaven.com



Signs Of The Times!

Brookhaven marked another first in the city's history with the installation of city limit signs. Brookhaven Mayor J. Max Davis unveiled "Brookhaven city limit" and

"Welcome to Brookhaven" signs at a city council meeting last month.

"We want residents and visitors to know when they are in Brookhaven," Davis said. "We want everyone to feel welcome and be encouraged to enjoy the beauty that Brookhaven has to offer."

New Website Coming: Brookhaven is revamping and updating the City website to make it more user-friendly. The update is scheduled to go live on December 17 — but check BrookhavenGa.gov frequently for updates.

New locations for Brookhaven city hall and police offices



Brookhaven will move out of the temporary city hall administrative offices at Ashford North in Dunwoody to a new location -in Brookhaven's city limits- possibly as soon January, on Peachtree Road.

The city has entered into a verbal agreement and is finalizing negotiations with owners of the former Georgia State University building on Peachtree Road.

"I'm pleased that our latest city hall will be centrally located in Brookhaven and no more than three miles away from any resident," said Brookhaven Mayor J. Max Davis.

The Brookhaven Police Department will also be moving to a new location at 2665 Buford Highway, although contract details are still being finalized for that location as well.

The Brookhaven Municipal Court will remain at its current location at 2 Corporate Boulevard, Suite 125.

Parks Plantings: Trees, Tulips and Pansies

The newest addition to Blackburn Park was planted last week and will be fully decorated and lit on December 14 in honor of Brookhaven's 1st city birthday.



At Blackburn park, it was a family affair as Mayor J Max Davis and Council member Bates Mattison brought their families to help plant tulips and pansies.

Led by Council Member Rebecca Chase Williams, volunteers planted some 3,000 tulip bulbs and 1800 pansies at the entrances to all of Brookhaven's 13 parks. Brookhaven paid for the plants, but the Mayor and City Council joined volunteers from throughout the city to add the fall and spring color to all Brookhaven parks. "It is just a way to show some park pride as we start to take over our parks," said Williams. "We have great Friends of the parks groups who came out to help."



The newest addition to Blackburn Park was planted last week and will be fully decorated and lit on December 14 in honor of Brookhaven's 1st city birthday



At Murphey Candler Parks, parks activist Karen Whitehead joins neighbors to plant a bed in front of the granite park sign.



Richard Deane and the Steve Peters family spruced up the corner near the Murphey Candler ball fields to add some flower power.

Council Views...



Rebecca Williams – City Finances

There was much to celebrate in our first full year's budget. The expected revenue of \$26.6 million dollars surpassed the \$23.8 million predicted by the Carl Vinson Institute feasibility study even after the city's millage rate was below the county's tax rate. One of our proudest accomplishments was to lower property taxes by more than two mills lower than the county's rate and a half mill below the cap set by the city's charter. The additional revenue appears to be coming from higher than expected revenue for business/occupation licenses, hotel-motel taxes, and building permits.

Our proposed budget includes both general funds and HOST funds. The largest items are \$5.8 million for Police and \$3.8 million for Public Works (including \$1 million for road resurfacing, and another \$1 million for sidewalks.) Parks are allotted \$3.2 million and Community Development goes up to \$2.2 million that includes the addition of four code and building inspectors to handle Brookhaven's building boom. \$6.7 million is set aside for Reserves and Future projects.

At a recent city council meeting, the city announced \$215,000 in parks grants, using money from the 2013 budget and designed for year-end improvements in all of the city parks. The grants included \$65,000.00 for bathrooms and improvements to the ball fields, \$40,000 for an entry feature at Brookhaven Park, \$25,000 for improvements at Lynwood Park, \$25,000 to repair the main pavilion at Blackburn Park, \$10,000 for a new swing set at Ashford Park, \$15,000 to help fund a new bathroom at Briarwood Park, \$5,000 for Georgian Terrance Park, and \$10,000 to install additional dog stations in all the parks.

District 1 City Council - Rebecca Chase Williams

Email: rebecca.williams@brookhavenga.gov



Jim Eyre – Managing The Building Boom

It is an exciting time in Brookhaven, sawdust is flying, dirt is turning and properties in the City are being transformed into new upscale homes at a dizzying rate. Drive down any street in District 2 and you will see one, two, three or more new homes under construction and families anxiously looking forward to a new life in their dream home. While the change is exciting for Brookhaven – providing a new generation of kids to grow up in our improving parks and increasing the tax digest to fund improvements to come – it does not come without corresponding growing pains as we lose the genteel

feel of our older ranch style neighborhoods and experience the inevitable conflict between longtime residents and the din of construction.

The rate of change is also testing the new City's processes and procedures for permitting and code enforcement. Fortunately, the City's contractor based workforce has allowed Brookhaven to ramp up to address the needs presented by this increased volume. Brookhaven has recently added experienced staff to the Community Development department to handle the fast pace; has increased our contract inspector staff to accommodate needs for both increased construction inspections and general code enforcement; has brought in additional staff to confirm our zoning map is a true and accurate representation of the zonings we inherited from DeKalb County, all necessary to ensure residents receive an adequate level of service from the City of Brookhaven.

The changes that are happening in Brookhaven are truly an exciting thing. Effectively managing those changes is our goal now and into the future.

District 2 City Council - Jim Eyre

Email: jim.eyre@brookhavenga.gov

The City Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Meeti



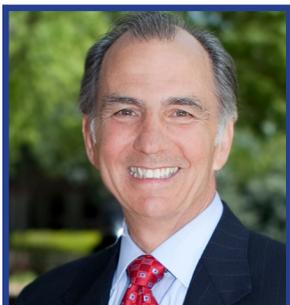
Bates Mattison – Vision of Economic Development

Economic development is critical to the continued success of our city. As our city staff work to ensure the best “customer-service oriented” operations, your Mayor and Council are charged with creating a vision for our city which increases your property value and helps create jobs. While most governments focus on how they spend your tax dollars, Brookhaven is focusing on attracting smart & responsible economic development to our area so that we can reduce your share of the tax burden. Our investments in the city’s parks, safety, and infrastructure are intended to enhance the attractiveness to both our residents and potential employers.

To achieve these results, we are launching our Comprehensive Plan, Transportation/Traffic Plan, Parks/ Recreation Plan, and have recently awarded the Buford Highway Corridor Economic Redevelopment Plan. With the assistance of nationally-recognized consultants and input from our residents and stakeholders, these plans will provide the vision for our future and a reference guide to keep us on track to achieve our goals. To this end, we have a designated Economic Development Team, we’ve created our Development Authority. We’re working with the Georgia Department of Economic Development, DeKalb County, the DeKalb County School System, and our State Legislature to help find solutions for obstacles preventing our growth.

We’re competing to be the most desirable area to live in and locate your business. We’ll continue to run our city like a business so that we beat the competition and make Brookhaven the best city in Georgia.

District 3 City Council - Bates Mattison
Email: bates.mattison@brookhavenga.gov



Joe Gebbia – Apartment Inspections Brighten Buford Highway

There are several exciting initiatives that promise to bring the Buford Highway corridor to its full potential. A contract has been awarded to develop a master plan for the entire length of the city’s Buford Highway corridor. Given its great location, access to the interstates, the city of Atlanta, and beautiful skyline views, Buford Highway is often considered a “diamond in the rough.” The city’s goal is to encourage smart urban development and to create economic incentives to attract developers.

Because so many of the city’s multi-family complexes are located in the fourth district, I am pleased that the city has an Apartment Inspection Program underway, in which the city is inspecting all 66 of the city’s complexes to ensure they are meeting building and safety codes. Our inspectors have discovered everything from meter rooms filled with flocks of chickens to standing water in electrical rooms to large holes in roofs and doors. To date, 12 complexes have been inspected and have begun significant improvements— new roofs, windows, stairways, and doors as well as new paint and pressure washing. Each apartment owner receives a full report of any problems discovered, and life safety issues are given highest priority.

The construction along Buford Highway continues as the Georgia Department of Transportation is finishing its \$12 million in safety improvements along this major corridor with added sidewalks, safer crosswalks, new lighting and upgraded medians. Another important sidewalk addition will soon be installed by the city of Brookhaven along Curtis Drive to provide a safe path that is ADA compliant for the many students who walk to school at both Woodward Elementary and Cross Keys High School.

District 4 City Council - Joe Gebbia
Email: joe.gebbia@brookhavenga.gov



Brookhaven Birthday Celebration

Saturday, Dec. 14
1-6 p.m.
Blackburn Park

Join us as we celebrate
Brookhaven's 1st birthday
and kick off the holiday season!

- 1pm • Birthday Fun Run
- 2pm-5pm • Santa, Live Music, Food Trucks
- 5pm-6pm • Tree Lighting



200 Ashford Center North
Suite 150
Atlanta, GA 30338
Phone: 404-637-0500

A message from the Chief....

Your police department has been active in not only responding to crime in Brookhaven, but also working actively to prevent it. Here are the statistics through December 2, 2013:

BROOKHAVEN POLICE STATISTICS 07/13 THRU 12/02/2013

Accidents Investigated.....	668
Reports / Complaints Completed	1,732
Forgery / Frauds	69
Robberies	30
Burglaries	75
Stolen Vehicles	36
Thefts from Vehicles	106
Traffic / Ordinance Citations Issued.....	2,990
Arrests (Custodial – for robberies, burglaries, drugs, etc).....	340
Wanted Persons located / arrested	53

We appreciate the overwhelming support we've received from all the residents of Brookhaven. As part of our community-based policing philosophy, we hope to be able to soon host "meet and greets" and let people get to know their neighborhood officers. Additionally we are hoping to implement our Crime Mapping Program during December, so anyone can see data on very recent criminal activity anywhere in the city via the internet.

On behalf of all the officers of the Brookhaven Police Department, I wish you and your family a safe Holiday season.

-Gary Yandura

